GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1815
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2003
VISIT OF TOURISTS TO NORTH EASTERN STATES
MONI KUMAR SUBBA

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether with the improved Law and order situation in Assam and other North Eastern States the tourists traffic in the region has increased considerably;

(b) if so, the number of domestic and foreign tourists visited these States during 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003, till-date; and

(c) the steps taken alongwith the Central aid sought and released to boost tourism in these States?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) and (b): A Statement indicating visits of domestic and foreign tourists in North Eastern States during the years 2000, 2001, 2002 and also the latest information available for the year 2003 is at Annexure.

(c): Various steps taken to develop and boost tourism in the North- Eastern region include:

- A North-East Circuit comprising of Shillong, Guwahati, Kaziranga, Tezpur,Bhalukpong, Tawang (Arunachal Pradesh), Majuli, Sibsagar and Kohima has been taken up for the integrated development of the region.

- A chapter of Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management has been opened at Guwahati.

- A full-fledged Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology has been set up at Shillong.

- A video film on tourist attractions for North East has been produced.

- Direct flight between Guwahati and Bangkok has been started.

- Financial assistance for promotion of fairs and festivals is being provided to North Eastern States every year on continuing basis.

- 10% Plan budget of the Department of Tourism, Government of India has beenearmarked for the projects/schemes of NE region, including Sikkim.

During the year 2002-03, an amount of Rs. 25.76 crores has been released for various ongoing projects/schemes & also for the new schemes like North-East circuit & other identified destination in NE states including Sikkim.

Annexure

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) AND (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1815 FOR ANSWER O 15.12.2003 REGARDING VISIT OF TOURISTS TO NORTH EASTERN STATES

Domestic and Foreign Tourist Visits During the years 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003

S.No.	State	2000		2001		2002		2003		Data for 2003 received upto
		Domestic	Foreign	Domestic	Foreign	Domestic	Foreign	Domestic	Foreign	
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	9932	2044	6349	323	4372	187	457	0	March
2.	Assam	891433	5954	1010651	6171	1953915	6409	271705	976	May
3.	Manipur	105167	429	76527	183	89633	221	69289	124	Sept.
4.	Meghalya	169929	2327	178697	2390	268609	3146	280742	3659	Sept.

5. Mizoram	28221	235	28771	152	29417	259	25781	206	Sept.
6. Nagaland	13272	451	9948	920	14263	657	NA	NA	-
7 Sikkim	143105	10409	203306	31028	159342	8566	130976	6839	Sept.
8. Tripura	231902	0	254912	0	260586	0	127751	0	Aug.
Total	1592961	21849	1769161	41167	2780137	19445	906701	11804	

NA: Not Available.